



Commonwealth of Kentucky Labor Cabinet

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Concept Packaging Earns Governor's Safety and Health Award

Georgetown company works more than 360,000 hours without a lost-time incident, goes from \$224,000 in workers' compensation claims in 2011 to zero in 2014

GEORGETOWN, Ky. (July 16, 2014) – Deputy Secretary Rocky Comito of the Kentucky Labor Cabinet today joined local and company officials at Concept Packaging to recognize employees with the Governor's Safety and Health Award. The company's employees have worked more than 360,000 hours without a lost-time accident or illness.

Labor Cabinet Secretary Larry L. Roberts congratulated the company for a successful commitment to worker safety.

"Concept Packaging has demonstrated the success a company can achieve when it commits itself to safety," said Secretary Roberts. "Everyone wins when safety is part of a company's culture and mindset. To every worker, every family member of those workers, and to every person who is part of the team at Concept Packaging, I congratulate you for this accomplishment."

Concept Packaging produces corrugated, honeycomb and returnable packaging in various shapes, sizes and materials. The packaging products are environmentally friendly, made

with recyclable and biodegradable goods. Metal, wood, paper, foam, thermoformed and injection molded plastic are all used to create a wide range of packaging, including intricate die-cuts to bulk boxes.

“I am very proud of the efforts and dedication of our team in the Northern Region,” said Steve Robinson, Northern Region general manager. “Concept Packaging Group has always been focused on safety and providing a safe, productive work environment for our employees. We had a very tough year in 2011, and we knew that we had to find a way to put the emphasis back on the level of safety that we once had. Through many programs and initiatives we have been able to turn that around. Our focus has been on empowering the employees as well as holding them accountable. In my 15 years with Concept Packaging, this by far is my proudest moment.”

Concept Packaging is divided into two regions in the United States: Northern and Southern. The Georgetown facility, which has approximately 80 employees, is part of the company’s Northern Region, which includes distribution facilities in Hebron and Springfield, as well as one in Princeton, Indiana. Overall, the company has approximately 350 employees at 13 facilities in six states.

In 2011, Concept Packaging’s Northern Region had to spend more than \$224,000 in workers’ compensation claims for injuries. The region’s total recordable injury case (TRC) rate was 7.6 per 100 full-time workers for 2011. The region’s rate for days away from work, restricted activity or a transfer to another job while recovering (DART) was 4.56 per 100 full-time workers for the year.

Concept Packaging took action to improve safety in 2011. The company established a strategic safety improvement focus plan, and formed active employee safety committees. The TRC rate fell to 1.81 in 2012 and is at 1.45 for this year. The company has not had a lost-time incident since January 2012. The DART rate is now zero for 2014. The company has not had to pay *any* costs associated with workers’ injuries this year.

“Concept Packaging’s safety record is a prime example of what can be accomplished when a company puts employee safety as its number one priority,” said Georgetown Mayor Everette Varney. “360,000 hours without lost time due to an accident is an outstanding achievement.”

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet presents the Governor’s Safety and Health Award in recognition of outstanding safety and health performance. An establishment may qualify for the award if its employees together achieve a required number of hours worked without experiencing a lost-time injury or illness. The required number of hours is dependent upon the number of employees. In the case of Concept Packaging, the requirement is 250,000.

Every establishment within the geographical boundaries of Kentucky is eligible, even if the establishment won the award the previous year. Eligibility is limited to one award during a 12-month period of time.

The award is a certificate mounted on a wooden plaque. The certificate contains the signatures of Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, Secretary Roberts and Department of Workplace Standards Commissioner Anthony Russell.

The Governor's Safety and Health Award program is part of Gov. Beshear's efforts to improve the health of all Kentuckians. The Governor launched [kyhealthnow](#) in February as an aggressive and wide-ranging initiative to reduce incidents and deaths from Kentucky's dismal health rankings and habits. It builds on Kentucky's successful implementation of health care reform and uses multiple strategies over the next several years to improve the state's collective health.

For more on the Governor's Safety and Health Award, and for a list of past winners, click [here](#).

For more on Concept Packaging, visit www.concept-pkg.com.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth's more than 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers' compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov.

